The Legislative Branch

U.S. Government







Courtesy of the Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Executive

Legislative

Judicial

The legislative branch is one part of the U.S. government.

The legislative branch is also called Congress.

Congress makes federal laws.

There are two parts of Congress:

- Senate
- · House of Representatives



Aerial view of the west front of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. Courtesy of the Architect of the Capitol.



The Senators of the 109th Congress. Courtesy of the U.S. Senate Photo Studio.

The U.S. Senate

There are one hundred members in the U.S. Senate.

Each state has two U.S. Senators.

A Senator represents all of the people in one state.

If a state has a small population, like Hawaii, there are two U.S. Senators.

If a state has a large population, like New York, there are two U.S. Senators.

This way, every state has an equal vote in the Senate.

We elect U.S. Senators for six years.

Voting for your senator is an important right and responsibility.

Who is one of your state's U.S. S	Senators now?

The U.S. House of Representatives

The U.S. House of Representatives has 435 voting members.

The number of U.S. Representatives for each state depends on the population.

Some states have more representatives because they have more people.

If the state has a large population, there are more representatives.

For example, Texas has a large population. In 2010, Texas had 32 representatives.

If the state has a small population, there are fewer representatives.

For example, Wyoming has a small population. In 2010, Wyoming had one representative.

We elect U.S. Representatives for two years.

Voting for your representative is an important right and responsibility.



Congressman George W. Johnson of West Virginia with a Boy Scout band from his state, June 4, 1924. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-29200.

Name your U.S. Representative.

Why do some states have more Representatives than other states?

More About the U.S. Congress

The Speaker of the House is in charge of the U.S. House of Representatives.

What is the name of the Speaker of the House of Representatives now?

If the President and the Vice President can no longer serve, the Speaker of the House becomes President.



John Boehner, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. Courtesy of the Office of U.S. Representative John Boehner.

Review—The U.S. Congress

Read the sentences.

Write the correct number in each sentence.

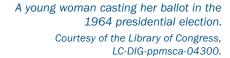
1.	Congress has parts, the Senate and the House of Representatives.
2.	The U.S. House of Representatives has voting members.
3.	We elect a U.S. Representative for years.
4.	We elect a U.S. Senator for years.

Participating in American Democracy

What are <u>two</u> ways that Americans can participate in their democracy?

1.					
2.					

5. There are _____ U.S. Senators.





Word Puzzle—U.S. Congress

Read the sentences. Write the words in the sentences. Fill in the letters for each word in the puzzle.

1.	Congress meets in the _	building.
2.	Some states have more	representatives because they have more
3.	There are one	Senators in the U.S. Senate.
4.	There are three branches	s of
5.	The House of	has 435 voting members.
6.	We Senato	ors for six years.
7.	The is one p	art of Congress.
8.	Congress makes federal	
	•	
	2 0	———
	3 N	
	4. G	
	5 R	
	6 E	
	•	
	8 S	

Congress	
Copy this word.	
Congress	
C	
Co	
Con	
Cong	Opening of the last session of the 62nd Congress on December 2, 1912 Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-DIG-hec-01720
Congr	
Congre	
Congres	
Congress	
Copy the Civics Test question and	answer.
Who makes federal laws? C	Congress.
W makes federal l′	? C
	?